



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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December 2, 2008

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: PD-3

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENTS FOR AS-NEEDED ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES FOR PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to award and authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to enter into five separate consultant services agreements with Chambers Group, Inc., EDAW, Inc., Jones & Stokes, Sapphos Environmental Inc., and UltraSystems Environmental, for as-needed environmental services for various County projects.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Award and authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to execute consultant services agreements with Chambers Group, Inc., EDAW, Inc., Jones & Stokes, Sapphos Environmental Inc., and UltraSystems Environmental for environmental compliance services for a three-year period commencing on the date of the Initial Notice to Proceed with two 1-year renewal options to be exercised by the Director of Public Works for a total of \$2.5 million for each consultant agreement for the five year period. Renewals will be recommended based upon the level of satisfaction with the services provided.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is for your Board to authorize the Director of Public Works to execute five consultant services agreements with Chambers Group, Inc., EDAW, Inc., Jones & Stokes, Sapphos Environmental Inc., and UltraSystems Environmental for as-needed environmental services.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Organizational Effectiveness (Goal 3). This action would provide the Department of Public Works (Public Works) with access to the necessary expertise and experience to complete the environmental documentation, permits, and mitigation for our construction and maintenance projects.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

The contract period for these five agreements will be for a three-year period with two 1-year renewal options for a total contract period of five years effective upon the date of the Initial Notice to Proceed. The total not-to-exceed amount for each agreement is \$2.5 million.

Each task order undertaken as a result of the awarding of these five agreements will be encumbered in appropriate funds such as, but not limited to, Flood, Road, Waterworks District No. 29, Malibu, Waterworks District No. 40, Antelope Valley, Proposition C Local Return, Transit Enterprise, Bikeway, and Solid Waste Management in the Fiscal Year 08-09 Budget, and the future funding will be incorporated in the annual budget process. Funds will be encumbered at the time each task order is undertaken. Total expenditures for this service, however, will not exceed the amount approved by your Board, and no service will be ordered without the funding authorization of Public Works' Financial Management Branch.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The environmental firms will perform environmental compliance services to support delivery of Public Works' construction and maintenance projects. Public Works regularly requires the services of environmental firms to perform certain functions and studies associated with obtaining environmental clearance for our construction and maintenance projects. These consultant services agreements will provide Public Works with the additional resources and expertise needed to complete the environmental documentation for our construction and maintenance projects.

The consultant services agreements will be in the form previously reviewed and approved by County Counsel. The agreements with Chambers Group, Inc., EDAW, Inc., Jones & Stokes, Sapphos Environmental Inc., and UltraSystems Environmental were solicited on an open competitive basis and are in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and County requirements. The contractors are in compliance with the Chief Executive Officer's and your Board's requirements.

The consultant services agreements contains terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs, including but not limited to: County's Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) and General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW), Board Policy No. 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers, Board Policy No. 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations, Board Policy No. 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law), Board Policy No. 5.135; Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015); Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.202; the Los Angeles County's Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.200; and the standard Board-directed clauses that provide for agreement termination or renegotiation.

Community Business Enterprise participation data, required certification forms, and three-year contracting histories with the County are on file with Public Works for Chambers Group, Inc., EDAW, Inc., Jones & Stokes, Sapphos Environmental Inc., and UltraSystems Environmental.

These agreements will be for a period of three years. With your Board's delegated authority, the Director of Public Works may renew these agreements for two 1-year renewal options, not to exceed a total contract period of five years.

The agreement includes a cost-of-living adjustment provision in accordance with your Board Policy, which was approved on January 29, 2002.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Approval of the agreements is not a project subject to the provision of the California Environmental Quality Act because it can be seen with certainty that this action will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21065.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On January 24, 2008, a Request for Proposals was made available to qualified environmental consulting firms. The Request for Proposal was listed on the County of Los Angeles Purchasing and Contract Opportunities website. A total of 45 Request for Proposals were sent out. Seventeen firms responded. An Evaluation Committee, consisting of Public Works' staff, evaluated the proposals. The evaluation of the firms was based on technical expertise, proposed work plan, experience, personnel qualifications, and understanding of the work requirements. These evaluations were

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completed without regard to race, creed, color, or gender. Based on the review and evaluation of these proposals, Public Works is recommending Chambers Group, Inc., EDAW, Inc., Jones & Stokes, Sapphos Environmental Inc., and UltraSystems Environmental as the best qualified firms to perform the required services.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Authoring these agreements will provide necessary environmental services in an efficient manner, enhancing the delivery of the Public Works' construction and maintenance projects.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works, Programs Development Division.

Respectfully submitted,


GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works

GF:SA:re

c: Chief Executive Office (Lari Sheehan)
County Counsel